

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener comprising:
 - a pair of fastener tapes each having a fastener element for engagement, ~~and~~
 - ~~a slider for closing and opening the fastener tapes;~~
 - said fastener elements protruding from the respective tapes and engaging with each other, thereby making it possible for the pair of fastener tapes to be joined one above the other; and
 - a slider for closing and opening the fastener tapes, said slider having a guide column and a top plate provided above the guide column and a bottom plate provided below the guide column;
 - said guide column being provided generally perpendicular to the fastener tapes;
 - said top plate including a first end and a second end, said first end extending downward and forming a left side part while said second end extends to an open space;
 - said bottom plate including a first end and a second end, said first end extending upward and forming a right side part while said second end extends to an open space; and
 - wherein left and right fastener element housings are formed between the guide column and the left and right side parts.
2. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are arranged longitudinally at locations other than the longitudinal edges of the fastener tapes.
3. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are coils.
4. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 1 wherein the fastener elements are rows of teeth.

5. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener for closing and opening fastener tapes comprising:
according to claim 1, wherein the slider has

a guide column constructed to perpendicularly engage fasteners tapes; and

a top plate provided above said guide column and a bottom plate provided ~~above~~
~~and below~~ said guide column;

said top plate including a first and a second end, said first end ~~one end of said top~~
~~plate~~ extending downward ~~[[,]]~~ and forming a left side part ~~[[,]]~~ while the other and said second
end extending to an open space;

said bottom plate including a first end and a second end, said first end ~~one end of~~
~~said bottom plate~~ extending upward ~~[[,]]~~ and forming a right side part ~~[[,]]~~ while the other and
said second end extending to an open space; and

wherein left and right fastener ~~[[,]]~~ element housings are formed between the
guide column and the left and right side parts.

6. (Currently Amended) A slide fastener according to claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein a pull is
~~established~~ provided on a side part of the slider ~~body~~.

7. (Original) A slide fastener according to claim 6, wherein the pull is provided with a
string.